

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 712

By Crowe

A RESOLUTION to congratulate John Mashburn upon his appointment as an umpire for the 2009 Little League World Series.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, John Mashburn is one such noteworthy person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary thirty-seven year service as an umpire for the Johnson City Major Little League, Mr. Mashburn has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to his community; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated role model for young people learning the sport of baseball, John Mashburn was selected to call the 2009 Little League World Series (LLWS) in Williamsport, Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, possessing the ability and knowledge to call a good game, Mr. Mashburn also had to meet several stringent requirements to qualify as an umpire for the LLWS, including calling games as an unpaid volunteer, holding membership in an umpire association, attending umpire schools on a regular basis, calling games in district, state, and regional tournaments, and be recommended by the district administration; and

WHEREAS, John Mashburn's remarkable success as a Little League umpire is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, he epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, humility being an interregnal part of his make-up, Mr. Mashburn is always quick to credit his friends, mentors, and family as the source of his tremendous success; and

WHEREAS, he enjoys the love and support of his wife, Diana, his children Bridget and John, and his three grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, truly understanding the one constant through all the years to be baseball, he has witnessed the many positive effects and inspiration baseball provides for young people playing the sport; and

WHEREAS, those who know him best speak of Mr. Mashburn as a man who knows the game of baseball, appreciates and respects the history of the game, and has made a special effort through the years to pass along the complete game of baseball to the children and families of Johnson City; and

WHEREAS, John Mashburn is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby congratulate John Mashburn upon his appointment as an umpire for the 2009 Little League World Series, commend his honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee during his thirty-seven years as a Little League umpire, and salute his unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.